

Amendment and Response
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Serial Number: 09/527,919

Attorney Docket: KCO1002US

(ii) a polypeptide consisting of at least 6 contiguous amino acids of sequence of pre-S1 of hepatitis B virus (HBV),
wherein the fusion polypeptide induces antibody that recognizes pre-S1 of HBV.

38. (Amended) A fusion polypeptide according to claim 35 wherein the tetanus toxin fragment C and the polypeptide consisting of at least 6 contiguous amino acids of sequence of pre-S1 of HBV are joined by a hinge linker.

41. (Amended) An immunogenic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and a fusion polypeptide comprising

- (i) tetanus toxin fragment C, fused to
- (ii) a polypeptide consisting of at least 6 contiguous amino acids of sequence of pre-S1 of hepatitis B virus (HBV),
wherein the composition induces antibody that recognizes pre-S1 of HBV.

44. (Amended) An immunogenic composition according to claim 41 wherein the tetanus toxin fragment C and the polypeptide consisting of at least 6 contiguous amino acids of sequence of pre-S1 of HBV are joined by a hinge linker.

REMARKS

Claims 39 and 45 have been cancelled and claims 35, 38, 41, and 44 have been amended. The amendments to claims 35, 38, 41, and 44 should be entered because they simplify the issues on appeal. Claims 35 to 38, 40 to 44, and 46 are now pending and under examination in the application.